GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:695
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2008
ROAD MAP FOR REJUVENATION OF AGRICULTURE
Singh Shri Chandra Bhushan;Vijay Krishna Shri

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission on Farmers has recommended any road-map / programme for rejuvenation of Agriculture Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has prepared any action plan in this regard;and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b)to(d): Based on the Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers submitted by the National Commission on Farmers, Government has approved the National Policy for Farmers, 2007.Various recommendations made by the Commission for rejuvenation of agriculture and allied sectors, as accepted by the Government, have been incorporated in the National Policy for Farmers.The Policy provides, inter-alia, for asset reforms in respect of land, water, livestock, fisheries and bioresources; support services and inputs like application of frontier technologies; agricultural biosecurity system; supply of good quality seeds and disease-free planting material; issue of soil health passbooks to the farmers and integrated pest management system; region and crop specific implements and machinery; support services for women like crÃ¨ches, child care centres, nutrition, health and training; timely, adequate and easy reach of institutional credit at reasonable interest rates and modified farmer-friendly insurance instruments; use of Information and Communication Technology and setting up of farm schools to revitalize agricultural extension; coverage of farmers under a comprehensive national social security scheme; effective implementation of MSP across the country and establishing community foodgrain banks; development of agricultural market infrastructure and terminal markets for agriculture; curriculum reforms in agricultural universities; special categories of farming like organic farming and contract farming; rural non-farm employment initiatives for farm households; and integrated approach for rural energy, etc.The policy prescriptions are expected to benefit the entire community of farmers in improving the economic viability of farming by substantially increasing the net income of farmers apart from increasing the production and productivity in agriculture and allied sectors.

Many of the provisions contained in the National Policy for Farmers 2007 are already under implementation by various Central Ministries and Departments and the States through several on-going schemes and programmes. Recently Government launched two new schemes i.e. National Food Security Mission and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna. These two schemes are expected to go a long way in realizing the provisions of the National Policy for Farmers 2007 through state specific de-centralized strategy taking into account the agro-climatic and other local conditions for development of agriculture sector.